

COME TO ME ALL YOU THAT ARE WEARY AND HEAVY LADEN, I WILL
GIVE YOU REST
Matthew 11:28

My name is Rowena Corbett. I thank everyone for being here today, as we celebrate the life and legacy of our dear friend, Abbot Aidan Shea.

Let me share with you a few things I've learnt about him over the years. I was first introduced to him in 1986, but really got to know him when I became his caregiver in 2012. He was gracious, amazing, gentle, compassionate, non-judgmental, and understanding. His love for people was shown through his personality.

His faith in God was strong; when his health began to fail, he never ceased to pray.

We had Mass for two: I would often say to him, "The Bible tells us where two or more are gathered in His Name, He will be in the midst." I truly believe this, therefore he prayed for me and I prayed for and with him.

For the past six plus years Abbot Aidan and I became best friends. Yes, he was a monk, teacher, priest, in all of that he was a true friend to all. His distinguished earthly presence will always remain in our hearts and minds as the great listener, a humble, intelligent, supportive, observant, gracious, and kind person—certainly an angel sent from above. He was and still is my angel. I loved him.

Apart from loving people, he loved pasta and chocolate. After his doctors' appointments we would go to lunch: I love Greek food; he loved pasta. WELL, YOU KNOW WHO WON.

Something else about our dear friend: BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS— that was his passion; he loved reading.

Well, there is a beginning and an end, and somewhere in between we have to accept God's will for our lives. Father Aidan made that decision and accepted God's plan. During his illness he never complained. I would say to him, "Father, how are you today?" After a pause he would say, "I am well." For the month or so after he had returned home from a hospital stay,

when I asked him how he was, he would pause, and with a smile he would say, "Mr. Parkinson is very busy." He accepted his illness.

Abbott Aidan, we will miss you, and we will continue to carry you in our hearts. I Love you.

May your soul REST IN PEACE.